



HAWK HEADLINER

Volume 6, Issue 2
October, 2003

Inside this issue:

The Principal's Page My sincerest thank you!

I feel obliged to begin this month's Principal's Page with the most enormous THANK YOU that I have ever written! To begin with, Back to School Night was the most well attended in the history of Friendly Hills. It truly warmed my heart, put a smile on my face, and confirmed all of the wonderful things that I have heard about the parents and families at Friendly Hills. I would also like to thank the Friendly Hills' Parent Group for some of the most delicious spaghetti this side of Italy. The parent group at Friendly Hills is growing by leaps and bounds, and as you saw, they are an extremely effective part of our school community. Lastly, I would like to personally thank everyone of you that I have had the pleasure of meeting. I can honestly say that I feel like I have found a new home and family. The parents, students, and staff have opened their arms, minds, and hearts to me and I truly appreciate it. Again, thank you all. Now, let me spend a little time talking about what is on the horizon.

October is another busy month for everyone at Friendly Hills. We are in the process of completing our reading and writing assessments district wide. Additionally, we will, for the first time, be utilizing the MUSD interim math assessment. This assessment will provide teachers with another valuable tool to inform their instruction to meet the challenging standards that have been set by both the State of California and the Federal Government. Please, remind the little ones that every test that they take is of the utmost importance and that these tests are an opportunity for them to shine.

Finally, I want to say that we are off to an unbelievable start. There have been some bumps in the road, but now it's as smooth as a Sunday afternoon ride in the country. Please, enjoy your children, their learning, and this time of year! ☺

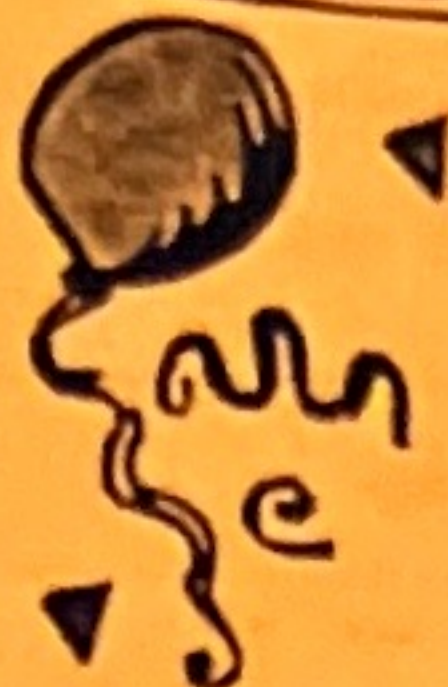


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Dates of interest

- 10/2 Awards Assemblies
- 10/10 Staff Development Day (No School)
- 10/16-17 Dr. Sue's Traveling Insect Zoo
- 10/23-31 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/26 "Fall Back" your clocks
- 10/27 See's candy sale begins
- 10/31 End of 1st Quarter
Halloween Carnival
@ JT Parks and Recreation 5-9 pm



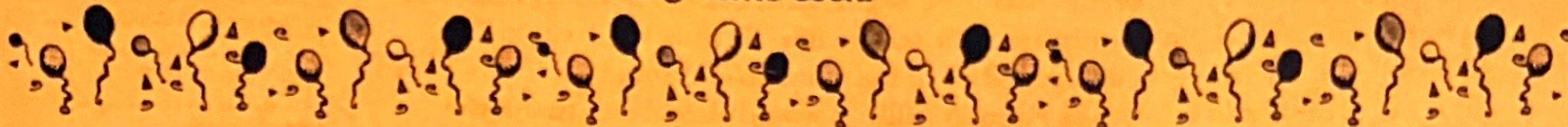


Halloween Carnival – October 31

The Joshua Tree Kids Club, Joshua Tree Parks and Recreation, Sportsman's Club and Z107.7 are sponsoring the annual Halloween Carnival, Costume Contest and Haunted House. This fun, safe, alternative Halloween Event will take place at the Joshua Tree Community Center on October 31 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

With the help of businesses, service clubs, organizations, schools and emergency service providers all coming together we can make this Halloween an even bigger and better event while providing a safe place for our youth to have fun, fun, fun!

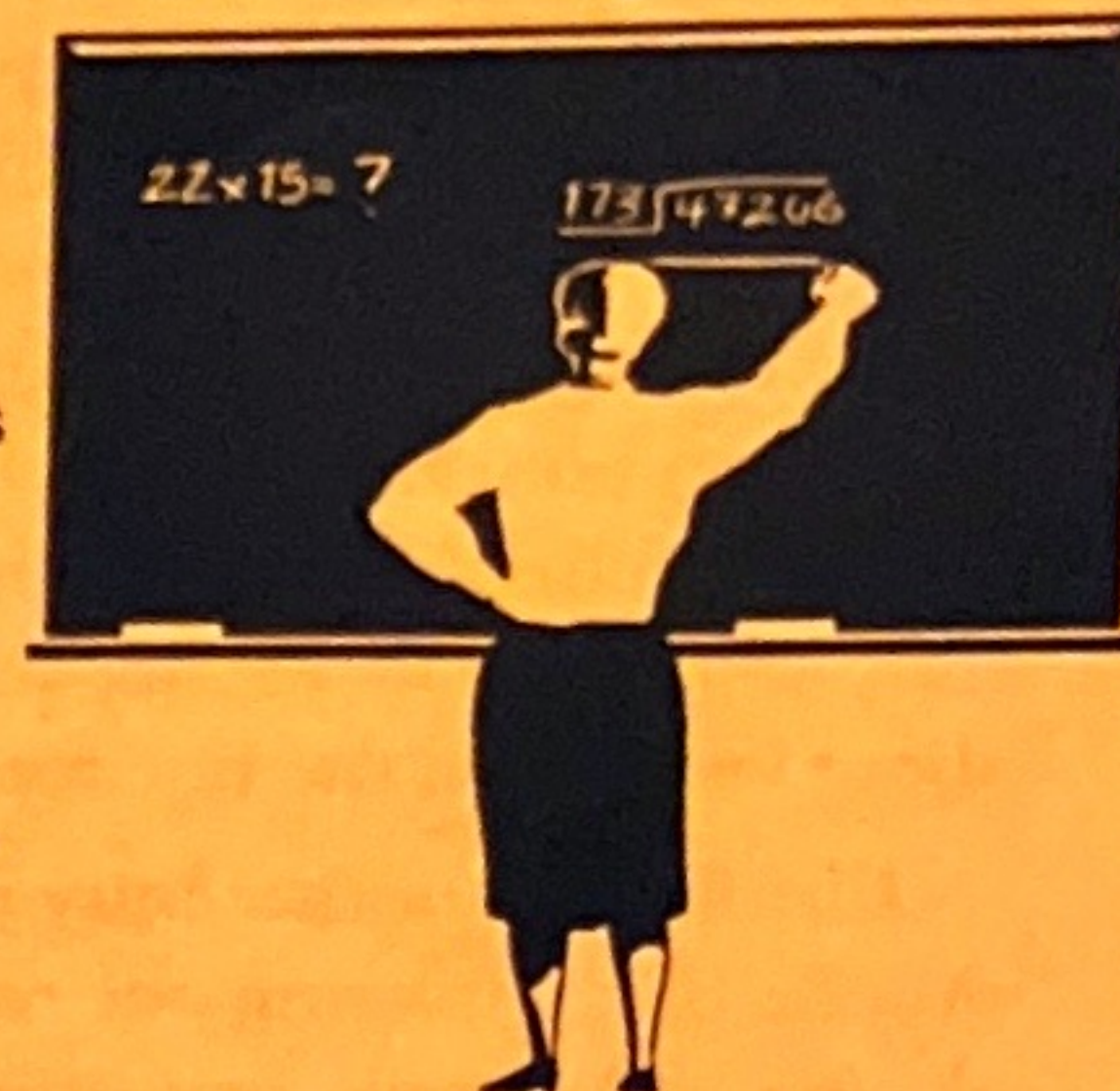
The Friendly Hills parent group will also be able to sell tickets for the Carnival, while at the same time, earning money for our school. The school office will be selling family pack tickets at 1/2 price from the gate. At a \$10 value, family ticket packs may be purchased for \$5 each. Let's keep our children off the streets and in a safe environment. More information will be coming home soon.



New Faces and Changes at Friendly Hills....

As many of you parents and students already know, the first few weeks of school has brought with it some changes. Changes are not always foreseeable even though we try our best to keep classroom changes to a minimum. We thank the many families whose children had to make adjustments because of our growth in enrollment.

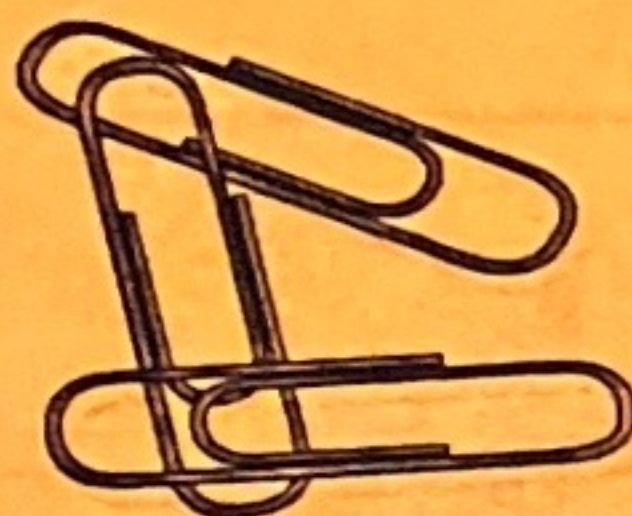
We would like to welcome Mrs. Reid-Laubenstein who comes to us from Onaga Elementary. Mrs. Reid has worked diligently to ready her classroom and welcomed 30 fifth and sixth graders from our other overfilled classes. Room #118 is busy at the task of learning and it is a well adjusted, happy environment. Mrs. Seacat, our wonderful afternoon kindergarten teacher, has become a K/1 combination class. Her first graders are very fortunate to have some one-on-one teaching in the morning. This change, however, caused a very full morning class of 5 year olds, so any help you parents can give would undoubtedly be appreciated! Lastly, Ms. Watsabaugh and her band of wonderful instructional assistants have joined our staff as the team to teach our younger grade special education students. They and their students have traveled to Friendly Hills from Twentynine Palms and we welcome them wholeheartedly to Room #5.



How Can I Help?

Many parents have been asking the question...."How Can I Help?" at school. We have several opportunities. Along with creating good study habits in your children, including helping with completion of homework, making sure he or she has a good night's sleep along with a good breakfast, you can help in the following ways:

- VOLUNTEER IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM • BECOME ACTIVE IN FHEA
- INVOLVE YOUR CHILD IN FUNDRAISERS • COME TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



FRIENDLY HILLS ELEMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Speaking of something active, this group is one of the most important connections the school has between home and school.

While the parent group has many goals and serves many functions, one of the most important is their fund raising. Through their work, Friendly Hills is able to take more field trips than almost any other school in the district. Already this year they raised over \$400 from their annual spaghetti dinner and soda floats sale. Our annual See's candy sale is gearing up to begin soon. The group is much more than fund raising, however. It is a chance to get involved and take an active roll

with what is happening at your child's school. Please join us at our next meeting, Tuesday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Education is not the
filling of a pail, but the
lighting of a fire.

William Butler Yeats

PARENT AND STUDENT REMINDERS

Our teachers love to have your kids here while they are teaching. There is so much to learn and share. Just a reminder, when children leave early, it disrupts that teaching, causing children to miss out on important information and results in a tardy for your child. The only exception is when this is cleared for a medical or dental appointment. A note from the medical office is necessary for accurate documentation.



While we do love to have your children here, when they arrive early before the gates open at 9:10 am, for grades 1-6,, it can be a recipe for trouble. Please make sure that your children are not arriving too early to school. We have no supervision before 9:10 a.m. and no crossing guard. We do have a bus that comes over from JT Kid's Club in the morning for those who would like supervised childcare. Check with the office for details.

Red Ribbon Week:

The week of October 23-31 is Red Ribbon Week. The special theme, for this year, is "We Are The Future...Let's Make It Drug-Free!". This theme encourages our youngsters to be drug, alcohol and tobacco free. Students will each receive a friendship bracelet with a drug-free message. Children are encouraged to wear their bracelet all week as other red ribbon week activities are conducted. We hope that families will take the stand, together, to be drug, alcohol and tobacco free.



News from the Library...

We are so happy to see our friends again after a long summer. Hope you enjoyed reading lots of books this summer. Let us share with you some of the wonderful things we do in the library here at Friendly Hills.

Each class comes to the library for a half-hour visit. Kindergarten through third grade can check out one book for one week. Fourth through sixth grade choose two books. Seventh and eighth graders come into the library for research.

During their library visit, we learn library skills and listen to a super story. Paddington and the teacher choose a student who shows good library manners during their library visit. This pal gets to hold Paddington during story time AND gets a bookmark AND a piece of candy AND gets a chance for a book to keep at the end of each month. Six students are chosen from the drawing and get to pick out a paperback book, to keep, from Paddington's book basket. What a grand time we have in the library!

This month we started reading the first California Young Reader nominee, "The School Story" by Andrew Clements. Our 4th, 5th and 6th graders are enjoying this book very much.

Our Paddington Pals for the month of September are:

Kasie Sixkiller	Mr. Hesse (Gr. 1)
Myraj McChristian	Ms. Subriar (Gr. 2)
Corey Petersen	Mrs. Mann (Gr. 3)
Hanah Miller	Mrs. Mits (Gr. 4)
Mark Carles	Mr. Chambless (Gr. 5)
Shelby Blair	Mr. Bogner (Gr. 6)

We encourage parents to spend reading time with their children. Children like to model what their parents teach them. Also, setting aside time when each family member is reading their own book sets a good example and a wonderful atmosphere for reading. We like to spend quiet time together, every day, reading great books...how about you?

Mrs. K. and Paddington



CBEDS and Federal Survey Cards....



Every October, the Federal government requires that Morongo Unified School District conduct a complete survey of all children enrolled in our district schools. Well, it's that time of year and October 1 is designated as CBEDS day. Each child will be bringing home a salmon colored card for parents to fill out. Thank you all for your cooperation every year in turning these cards in to your child's teacher the following day. The district receives extra federal dollars for any family who work and/or live on federal property, so this information is vital. We only need to know your employment information if you are in the military or work on federal land. A full explanation on the use of this confidential information is on the back of the card you will be receiving. So, be watching for this card soon and again, thank you for your quick response.

FRIENDLY HILLS SCHOOL

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Friendly Hills is dedicated to ensuring that students acquire the necessary skills to be high achievers, exemplary citizens and life long, self motivated learners.

Bookmark It!
Http:\\fhes.
morongousd.com

Our Story

Friendly Hills School was founded in 1988 as part of the Morongo Unified School District. Since it's inception, the school has been instrumental in the education of more than 4000 students. Our first kindergarten class graduated from high school in the year 2000. We are confident that class, and all who will follow, leave this school with a strong, well rounded education. Our tradition has been one of academic excellence, high student expectations and an education rich in the arts. As we move into the future, Friendly Hills continues to lead in these areas, as well as emerging as an innovator in the area of technology. We attribute our success to a talented, dedicated staff, caring parents and wonderful students.

SCHOOL BASED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NEWS

The School Based Management Council held its first meeting on September 11, 2003. Our new members, including myself, were introduced. This council's purpose is to act as a decision making body within the framework of the public school system. The council's first meeting was an opportunity to get to know one another and bring everyone up to speed on this year at Friendly Hills.

The first topic of discussion was the staffing and classroom changes that have occurred due to our increased enrollment. We also discussed the current budget crisis in the State of California and how it is negatively impacting schools all over the state. The next item on the agenda was the upcoming intervention program. This should start by the middle of October depending on funding. Lastly, we discussed Friendly Hills' projected overall test scores on the STAR battery. The results look good, but as everyone knows, there is always room for growth. If you have any questions about the SBMC or the topics that are discussed, please feel free to contact me. Again, I thank everyone involved for their support.

SBMC Revised Schedule 2003-2004

November 6, 2003 @ 3:45 FHES Library

January 22, 2004 @ 3:45 FHES Library

March 25, 2004 @ 3:45 FHES Library

May 13, 2004 @ 3:45 FHES Library



October, 2003

Mon		Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri	
5		6		7		8		9	
12		13		14		15		16	
19		20		21		22		23	
26		27		28		29		30	
31		1		2		3		4	
10		11		12		13		14	
17		18		19		20		21	
24		25		26		27		28	
31		1		2		3		4	
10		11		12		13		14	
17		18		19		20		21	
24		25		26		27		28	
31		1		2		3		4	

Halloween

